GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:920
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2016
Cost Escalation of Irrigation Projects
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether major irrigation projects including Ban Ganga of Raigad district in Maharashtra are financed/supported by the Government, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government is aware of certain observation made by different quarters/agencies/departments/ organisations including Mumbai High Court regarding abnormal hike/cost escalation of irrigation projects in Maharashtra; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) Government of Maharashtra has not submitted Ban Ganga Project in Raigad District of Maharashtra to Government of India for financial assistance. Further, 66 Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) Projects in Maharashtra had been included under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme since 1996-97 out of which 37 projects have been reported to be completed. Central Loan Assistance/Central Assistance of Rs. 10363.838 crore has been provided to these projects.

(b) & (c) As per information available, the Government of Maharashtra had constituted a Special Investigation Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Madhaorao Chitale to inspect projects coming under Irrigation Development Corporations of the State during the year 2012. One of the scope of the said Committee was to "find out reasons for cost increase in Revised Administratively Approved projects". The Committee submitted its report to Government of Maharashtra. In the report the main factors for cost escalation have been indicated as Price escalation, rise in land acquisition and Rehabilitation & Resettlement cost, modifications in design, change in scope etc. The action to be taken on the report of the Committee pertains to the Government of Maharashtra.
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